

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) Driving belt, comprising: in particular for driving relatively heavy vehicles such as motor vehicles and lorries, provided with

an enclosed tension element (2) in the form of a number of nested flat rings; and also with

metal transverse elements (1) accommodated so as to be movable freely in a longitudinal direction along the tension element (2) and freely movable relative to a circumference of the tension element (2),

radial play provided between the tension element and the transverse elements such that the transverse elements tilt relative to the tension element about an axial direction and contact between the tension element and the transverse elements solely takes place by friction,

which tension element and transverse elements form a pushbelt driving belt is intended to be used wedged between the sheaves of a set of pulleys of a continuously variable transmission,

which transverse elements (1) ~~are~~ each provided ~~designed~~ with a body part (10), a head part (12) and a neck part (11) between the latter two parts,

on either side of the neck part (11) between the body part (10) and the head part (12) two axially oriented openings (17) being present, in each of which openings a part of the tension element (2) is accommodated,

the radially lower limit (19) of ~~an~~ each opening (17) formed by the body part (10) being intended for contact with the respective part of the tension element (2),

~~while~~ the body part (10) ~~[[is]]~~ provided on either side with contact surfaces (13) oriented substantially in an axial direction and diverging from each other in the radial direction, which contact surfaces (13) are intended for contact with the sheaves of the pulleys, and which body part (10) is provided with a substantially axially oriented tilting line (14), situated in a front side of the transverse element (1) in said body part (10), and along which two adjacent, mutually contacting transverse elements (1) in the driving belt can rotate in relation to each other,

~~whereby~~ wherein an upper limit (16) of ~~an~~ each opening (17) formed by the head part (12) extends in the axial direction at least to an imaginary line (18), which extends from the radially lower limit (19) to the radially upper limit (16) of the

respective opening (17) in line with a corresponding contact surface (13), and

~~whereby~~ wherein axial ends of the head part (12) are each provided with an additional contact surface (20) oriented substantially in the axial direction and intended for contact with the sheaves of the pulleys, and

~~characterised in that~~ wherein a radial or height dimension of the additional contact surfaces (20) of the head part (12) is at most equal to one third of a radial dimension of the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10) and is ~~preferably~~ larger than one fifth of that dimension.

2. (original) Driving belt according to Claim 1, characterised in that the additional contact surfaces (20) of the head part each lie substantially in line with one of the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10).

3. (original) Driving belt according to Claim 1, characterised in that the additional contact surfaces (20) of the head part (12) are situated outside an area defined between two imaginary lines (18), which imaginary lines (18) extend from the lower limit (19) to the upper limit (16) of the openings (17) in line with the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10).

4. (previously presented) Driving belt according to claim 1, characterised in that a radially outermost edge (21) of the head part (12) is provided with a centrally positioned indentation (22), at least viewed relative to an otherwise substantially arrowhead-shaped exterior of the head part (12).

5. (previously presented) Driving belt according to claim 1, characterised in that the neck part (11) diverges radially outwards in the axial direction.

6. (currently amended) Driving belt according to claim 1, characterised in that a radially innermost [[or]] bottom edge (23) of the body part (10), at least at the axial position of the neck part (11), is i) oriented at least substantially axially and ~~preferably~~ ii) over the entire axial [[or]] widthwise dimension of the transverse element (1), is situated at substantially the same radial position as a radial underside of the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10), or at a position situated radially inwards.

7. (currently amended) Driving belt, ~~in particular~~ according to claim 1, ~~provided with an enclosed tension element (2) and also with metal transverse elements (1) accommodated so as to be movable in a longitudinal direction along the tension~~

~~element (2), which driving belt is intended to be used wedged between the sheaves of a set of pulleys of a continuously variable transmission, which transverse elements (1) are each designed with a body part (10), a head part (12) and a neck part (11) between the latter two parts, on either side of the neck part (11) between the body part (10) and the head part (12) two axially oriented openings (17) being present, in each of which openings a part of the tension element (2) is accommodated, the radially lower limit (19) of an opening (17) formed by the body part (10) being intended for contact with the respective part of the tension element (2), while the body part (10) is provided on either side with contact surfaces (13) oriented substantially in an axial direction and diverging from each other in the radial direction, which contact surfaces (13) are intended for contact with the sheaves of the pulleys, and which body part (10) is provided with a substantially axially oriented tilting line (14), situated in a front side of the transverse element (1) and along which two adjacent transverse elements (1) in the driving belt can rotate in relation to each other, whereby an upper limit (16) of an opening (17) formed by the head part (12) extends in the axial direction at least to an imaginary line (18), which extends from the radially lower limit (19) to the radially upper limit (16) of the respective opening (17) in line with a contact surface (13), and whereby axial ends of the head part (12) are each provided with an additional contact surface (20) oriented~~

~~substantially in the axial direction and intended for contact with the sheaves of the pulleys, characterised in that the~~
wherein each transverse element (1) is ~~not provided with~~ free of
further means ~~for~~ preventing a displacement of adjacent
transverse elements (1) in the driving belt relative to each
other in the radial direction, ~~such as~~ including being free of
any ~~[[a]]~~ projection (15) and hole that mutually engage in the
radial direction between the adjacent elements (1).

8. (new) A driving belt, comprising:

an enclosed tension element (2) comprised of plural
nested flat rings; and

plural all-metal transverse elements (1) freely movable
in a longitudinal direction along the tension element (2) and
relative to a circumference of the tension element (2) with radial
play provided between the tension element and the transverse
elements such that the transverse elements tilt relative to the
tension element about an axial direction and contact between the
tension element and the transverse elements solely takes place
only by friction,

the tension element and transverse elements forming a
pushbelt to be wedged between sheaves of a set of pulleys of a
continuously variable transmission,

each transverse element (1) provided with a body part
(10), a head part (12), a neck part (11) between the body and head

two parts, and an axially oriented opening (17) on each side of the neck part (11) between the body part (10) and the head part (12),

in each of the openings (17) a part of the tension element (2) is accommodated,

a radially lower limit (19) of each opening (17) for contact with the respective part of the tension element (2),

contact surfaces (13) provided of either side of the body part (10), the contact surfaces (13) oriented substantially in an axial direction and diverging from each other in the radial direction, the contact surfaces (13) for contact with the sheaves of the pulleys, and

a substantially axially oriented tilting line (14) provided on a front side of the body part (10) and along the tilting line (14) two adjacent, mutually contacting transverse elements (1) in the driving belt can rotate in relation to each other,

wherein a radially upper limit (16) of each opening (17) formed by the head part (12) extends in the axial direction at least to an imaginary line (18), which extends from the radially lower limit (19) to the radially upper limit (16) of the respective opening (17) in line with a corresponding contact surface (13),

wherein axial ends of the head part (12) are each provided with an additional contact surface (20), oriented

substantially in the axial direction, for contact with the sheaves of the pulleys, and

wherein a radial or height dimension of the contact surfaces (20) of the head part (12) is at most equal to one third of a radial dimension of the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10) and is larger than one fifth of that dimension.

9. (new) Driving belt according to Claim 8, wherein, the additional contact surfaces (20) of the head part each lie substantially in line with one of the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10).

10. (new) Driving belt according to Claim 8, wherein, the additional contact surfaces (20) of the head part (12) are situated outside an area defined between two imaginary lines (18), which imaginary lines (18) extend from the lower limit (19) to the upper limit (16) of the openings (17) in line with the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10).

11. (new) Driving belt according to claim 8, wherein, a radially outermost edge (21) of the head part (12) is provided with a centrally positioned indentation (22), at least viewed relative to an otherwise substantially arrowhead-shaped exterior of the head part (12).

12. (new) Driving belt according to claim 8, wherein, the neck part (11) diverges radially outwards in the axial direction.

13. (new) Driving belt according to claim 8, wherein, a bottom edge (23) of the body part (10) is

i) oriented at least substantially axially, and

ii) over the entire axial or widthwise dimension of the transverse element (1), is situated at substantially the same radial position as a radial underside of the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10).

14. (new) Driving belt according to claim 8, wherein each transverse element (1) is free of any projection (15) and corresponding hole that mutually engage in the radial direction between the adjacent elements (1).

15. (new) A metal pushbelt driving belt for a continuously variable transmission, comprising:

plural rigid transverse elements made entirely of metal, each transverse element (1) provided with a body part (10), a head part (12), a neck part (11) between the body and head two parts, and an axially oriented opening (17) on each side of the neck part (11) between the body part (10) and the head part (12); and

an endless tension element accommodating the transverse elements with the transverse elements freely movable along the endless tension element, the tension element comprising plural flat rings accommodated around one another, each ring accommodated in one of the openings (17),

the transverse elements and tension element forming a pushbelt for press fit between sheaves of a primary pulley and a secondary pulley, the pushbelt undergoing a driving force transmitted through friction between contact surfaces of the transverse elements and a conically shaped contact surface of each of the sheaves, wherein,

a radially lower limit (19) of each opening (17) for contacts with a respective part of the tension element (2),

the contact surfaces (13) of the transverse elements are provided of either side of the body part (10), the contact surfaces (13) oriented substantially in an axial direction and diverging from each other in the radial direction, and

a substantially axially oriented tilting line (14) is provided on a front side of the body part (10) and along the tilting line (14) two adjacent, mutually contacting transverse elements (1) in the driving belt can rotate in relation to each other,

a radially upper limit (16) of each opening (17) formed by the head part (12) extends in the axial direction at least to an imaginary line (18), which extends from the radially lower

limit (19) to the radially upper limit (16) of the respective opening (17) in line with a corresponding contact surface (13),

axial ends of the head part (12) are each provided with an additional contact surface (20), oriented substantially in the axial direction at least to the imaginary line (18), for contact with the sheaves of the pulleys, and

a radial or height dimension of the contact surfaces (20) of the head part (12) is at most equal to one third of a radial dimension of the contact surfaces (13) of the body part (10) and is larger than one fifth of that dimension.